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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/15/2018

TAGS: PREL UNAUS UNMIK PGOV YI EU OSCE IT

SUBJECT: KOSOVO: ITALIANS PRESSING OSCE STATES TO AVOID
BERLIN MECHANISM

REF: STATE 14284

Classified By: Gabriel Escobar, PoQtical Officer, for reasons 1.4 (b)
and (d)

(C) On February 12 Poloff delivered reftel points to Raimondo De Cardona, MFA Balkans Office Director. De Cardona agreed that OSCE states should avoid invoking the OSCE's Berlin Mechanism. The GOI was working with France to draft a demarche to other EU nations asking them not to support such a move. De Cardona noted, however, that with 56 participating states, it is likely that Serbia and Russia would be able to find ten more countries to lend support - particularly with Spain "lobbying against us". De Cardona said the GOI was prepared to work with other Quint countries to strategize how to approach a meeting, should it be invoked.

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